

around in is incomprehensible. The rationale for this system is likely summed up by Larry Meachum, commissioner of correction in the State of Connecticut: "We must attempt to modify criminal behavior and hopefully not return a more damaged human being to society than we received."

Mr. President, I reject this liberal social rehabilitation philosophy. I introduced legislation yesterday, the Prison Work Act of 1995, which has a different message: prisons should be places of work and organized education, not resort hotels, counseling centers, or social laboratories. It ensures that time spent in prison is not good time, but rather devoted to hard work and education. This is a far more constructive approach to rehabilitation.

Specifically, the Prison Work Act repeals the social program requirements of the 1994 crime bill and instead makes the receipt of State prison construction grant money conditional on States requiring all inmates to perform at least 48 hours of work per week, and engage in at least 16 hours of organized educational activities per week. States may not provide to any prisoner failing to meet the work and education requirement any extra privileges, including the egregious items listed above.

The critics of this legislation are likely to portend that it is too costly or too unworkable. However, as prison reform expert and noted author John DiIulio has pointed out, one-half of every taxdollar spent on prisons goes not to the basics of security, but to amenities and services for prisoners. However, these extra perks would be severely restricted under my legislation. No one failing to meet the work and organized study requirements would have access to them, and since the inmates would be occupied for 11 hours per day fulfilling the work and study requirement, the opportunity for these costly privileges would be reduced. Moreover, to reduce operation costs even further, prison labor could be used to replace labor that is currently contracted out. Thus, these programs could easily be implemented.

The other charge will likely be that the Federal Government should not micromanage State prison efforts. However, this bill does not micromanage at all. Rather, States have been micromanaged by the Federal courts which have mandated that States provide prisoners with every possible amenity imaginable. For example, Federal Judge William Wayne Justice of the Eastern District Court required scores of changes in the Texas prison system, designed to improve the living conditions of Texas prisoners. These changes increased Texas's prison operating expenses tenfold, from \$91 million in 1980 to \$1.84 billion in 1994—even though the prison population only doubled.

This legislation will empower State and local prison officials to operate their systems in a cost-efficient man-

ner, and will give them the much needed protection from the overreaching Federal courts. More importantly, it will put the justice back in our criminal justice system and ensure that criminals are not treated better than the victims.●

#### THE FIFTH ANNUAL DAY OF THE AFRICAN CHILD

● Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I rise today to observe the fifth annual Day of the African Child, a day this year which will focus international attention on Africa's potential amidst critical challenges.

The Day of the African Child was declared in 1991 to commemorate the massacre of South African schoolchildren in the black township of Soweto 19 years ago. These elementary and high school children were shot and killed simply for protesting the deplorable system of apartheid education. On this anniversary, we have the opportunity to celebrate the achievements of countries like South Africa, and reflect on the challenges ahead for the African child—indeed, the next generation of Africa.

There have been considerable strides made in Africa over the last 30 years. In partnership with the international community, the mortality rate of children under 5 has decreased by half since 1960. The average life expectancy in the subcontinent is now 54 years, 13 years longer than it was in 1960. Two-thirds of African countries have immunized 75 percent of all children under 5, and UNICEF reports that the governments of Africa expanded the provision of safe water to over 120 million more people during the 1980's. Primary school enrollment has risen dramatically since the 1970's for both boys and girls, with 69 percent of African girls enrolled in primary school now.

Yet, hardships continue for many African children. Life expectancy in Africa is still 20 years behind that of developed states. Basic health care is not accessible to half of all Africans. Children in Africa continue to die at 10 times the rate of children in industrialized nations.

But today, in addition to hunger and disease, war is also ravaging the minds and bodies of Africa's children. It is no coincidence that the countries with the first, second, and third highest rates of child mortality—Mozambique, Afghanistan, and Angola—are those that have been embroiled in the bloodiest of civil wars. Ethiopia, Somalia, and Liberia are close behind.

The armed conflicts throughout Africa have taken their toll on the children. Last year in Rwanda, for instance, almost 100,000 children reportedly were killed in just a few months. In Sudan, according to a 1992 report by the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees, one criterion for conscription was "the presence of two molar teeth": as a result, almost 12,500 boys from the ages of 9 to 16 years were enlisted.

Last year in Liberia, I raised the issue of child soldiers with members of the Transitional Government, and was told that this is truly a problem which is rotting the country. UNICEF estimates that thousands of children are participating in Liberia's civil war—either to avenge murders of their family members or to make some hard-found money—and that factions abuse their young soldiers with alcohol, drugs, and gunpowder.

Mr. President, while we recognize the progress made in Africa thus far, we must not forget these daunting challenges ahead. As we debate the role of the United States in Africa, we must do so with an eye to the future, and with an appreciation for what international partnership can achieve.●

#### DAY OF THE AFRICAN CHILD

● Mrs. KASSEBAUM. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the fifth annual Day of the African Child. As chairman of the African Affairs Subcommittee, I have long been concerned about Africa's children.

Earlier this year, the world community lost one of its foremost champions for the cause of children, Mr. James Grant. As head of UNICEF, Jim Grant worked tirelessly to improve the lives of children all around the world, particularly in Africa. His dedication, energy, and moral leadership will be sorely missed. On this day of African children, we mourn his loss but also celebrate his contributions.

Since I first chaired the subcommittee in 1980, there has been real and significant progress in improving the lives of children of Africa. Through the commitment of African governments, private voluntary groups, and international organizations like UNICEF, access to education has increased notably. The under-5 mortality rates are now half what they were in 1960. Malnutrition, while still affecting some 30 percent of African children, is less pronounced than many had feared entering the 1980's.

But much remains to be done. I am particularly concerned about the devastating effect of civil conflict on children. While political factions and armed groups fight for power, it is often the most vulnerable and voiceless—Africa's children—who are most affected. Entire generations have lost opportunities for basic education. Many have lost parents and siblings. From Sudan to Angola, Rwanda to Liberia, the brutality of war has scarred millions of innocent children.

Mr. President, the Day of the African Child, June 15, commemorates the 1976 uprising and massacre of the children of Soweto, South Africa. Their struggle to bring down the inhumane apartheid system vividly symbolizes the difficult plight of children in Africa. Their struggle, however, also represents the possibilities and hope for Africa as President Nelson Mandela finishes his